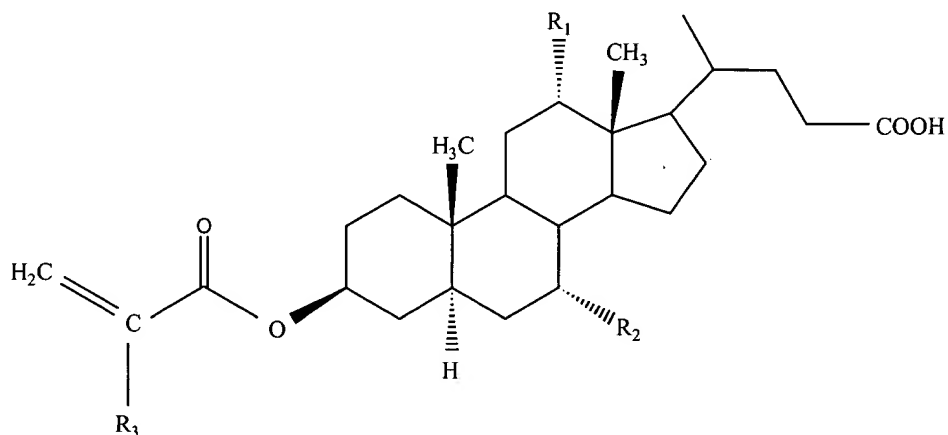


1. (twice amended) A polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin represented by the following formula (I):



wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represents a hydrogen atom or a hydroxyl group, and R_3 represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, provided that R_3 represents a hydrogen atom when R_1 and R_2 each represents a hydroxyl group.

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, Applicants propose to cancel dependent claim 4 and to amend claim 1 to delete the subject matter of cancelled claim 4. In addition Applicants propose to cancel claim 10, since claim 10 is redundant of claim 5.

Entry of the proposed amendments, which raise no new issues and should place the present application in condition for allowance, is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the proposed amendments, claims 1-3 and 5-9 will be pending in the application.